

a transparent, electrically conductive layer, characterized in that the transparent electrode sheet or sheets has/have a periodic or aperiodic pattern of strips or grid made of a material having metallic conductivity.

2. (Amended) The electrochromic display element according to Claim 1, characterized in that the electrochromic medium is a solution, a gel or a solid.
3. (Amended) The electrochromic display element according to Claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the electrochromic medium contains at least one pair of redox substances of which one is reducible and the other is oxidizable, where both are colourless or only slightly coloured and one substance is reduced and the other is oxidized on application of a voltage to the display element, with at least one becoming coloured, and after switching off the voltage the two original redox substances are formed again and the display element decolorizes.
4. (Amended) The electrochromic display element according to Claim 3, characterized in that
  - a) the reducible substance has at least two chemically reversible reduction waves in the cyclic voltammogram and the oxidizable substance correspondingly has at least two chemically reversible oxidation waves, or
  - b) the reducible substance and the oxidizable substance are covalently bound via a bridge, or
  - c) the reducible and/or oxidizable substances selected are ones in which the reversible transition between the oxidizable form and the reducible form or vice versa is associated with the breaking or the formation of a  $\sigma$  bond, or
  - d) the reducible substance and the oxidizable substance are metal salts or metal complexes of metals which exist in at least two oxidation states, or

- e) the reducible and/or oxidizable substances are selected from the group consisting of oligomers and polymers which contain at least one of the redox systems mentioned or else pairs of such redox systems as are defined under a) to d), or
- f) the reducible and/or oxidizable substances used as mixtures of the substances described in a) to e), provided that these mixtures contain at least one reducible and at least one oxidizable redox system.

5. (Twice Amended) The electrochromic display element according to Claim 1, characterized in that both electrode sheets have a periodic or aperiodic pattern of strips or grids made of a material having metallic conductivity.

6. (Amended) The electrochromic display element according to Claim 5, characterized in that the lines of the pattern of strips of the two electrodes form an angle with one another.

7. (Twice Amended) The electrochromic display element according to Claim 1, characterized in that the pattern of strips or grid made of the material having electrical conductivity is aperiodic on at least one electrode.

8. (Amended) The electrochromic display element according to Claim 7, characterized in that the periodicity of the pattern of strips or grid on at least one electrode is restricted to a very short distance.

9. (Twice Amended) display element according to Claim 7, characterized in that the arrangement of the aperiodic grid is such that the mean of the distance between two neighboring points of intersection of the grid, taken over all points of intersection of the grid, corresponds to the dot spacing of a periodic dot grid having the same size and the same